MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: In 1120, the figure has been given. I want to know the total number of malarial patients for the whole of Travancore. That for the Meenachil Taluk and the Thodupuzha taluk are given.

PRESIDENT: How does anybody know that? When a man is attacked by Malaria he consults generally an Ayurvedic Physician and he says it is a case of *pithom* or *kabham* and things like that. It is only after the development of the disease to a certain stage that he goes to the hospital. Until then what happens is, he takes some *kashayam*.

Scarcity of water.

489. *MR. J. T. MORAIS (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the scarcity of water experienced by the people of the coastal villages of Parithiyoor and Kollenkode for drinking purposes; and

(*b*) whether any well has been sunk by Government for supplying good water to the inhabitants?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: May I know how many wells have been sunk in that particular area?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Five wells have been sunk. One of the wells yields a perennial supply of water to the particular place to which the honourable member has referred.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: May I know whether that well is maintained properly?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: That well is a very good one. That is the report. I have not seen it myself.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU (*Karunagapalli* cum *Karthigapalli*): Are not tube wells better in coastal areas?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: They get clogged very soon and they have been a failure throughout.

PRESIDENT: Wherever the sub-soil is clay or what may be called gummy, you cannot have tube wells because it gets blocked up by sand. It is only where there is sand that the tube wells are good.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: Will not the R. C. wells become useless after a time?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The water becomes saltish. In the post-war scheme, a chain of wells is being thought of along the coastal areas.

MR. J. T. MORAIS: May I know whether the honourable member has been to the spot?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: I have seen some of the wells of Kollamcode, but not Paruthiyoor.

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